



<b>TO:</b>	<b>State Interoperability Executive Committee</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>October 18, 2011</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>David Felix Executive Director, Regional Wireless Cooperative</b>		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Waiver</b>		

# Overview

- The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) mandates that all 700 MHz public safety equipment must be narrow-banded by December 31, 2016.
- The impact of this mandate is the potential of losing seamless wide-area roaming for the RWC and TRWC, which employ mixed 700/800MHz systems.



# Overview

- Maintaining basic government services as well as radio system infrastructure and subscriber equipment (radios) are major challenges for many agencies' members for many years to come.
- System changes of this type require agencies to plan ahead extensively, for a minimum of 5 years and generally much longer, when budgets are being significantly reduced due to major economic conditions.



# Overview

- This rule requires that a majority of existing system equipment and subscriber handheld units are not just converted, but replaced.
- For these reasons, the supporting agencies request the Commission modify the current rules addressing spectrum efficiency as cited above. If the current deadline of December 31, 2016, is not extended, it will have a significant negative impact for all members and users of the systems.



# Petition To FCC To Extend Narrow-Banding Deadline

## Participating Agencies:

- Regional Wireless Cooperative
- Topaz Regional Wireless Cooperative
- Arizona Department of Public Safety
- Maricopa County
- Yuma Regional Communication System
- Arizona Public Safety Communications Advisory Commission
- 700 MHz Region 3 Planning Committee



# Petition To FCC To Extend Narrow-Banding Deadline

## Points For Consideration:

- 700 MHz frequencies are being allocated effectively and used efficiently in Region 3.
- TDMA standards have not yet been fully ratified and consequently, there is a lack of available products, specifically subscribers, which comply with the standard.
- Product lifecycles, costs and availability are such that agencies are significantly challenged to maintain their infrastructure and subscribers in sound, up-to-date working order.



# Petition To FCC To Extend Narrow-Banding Deadline

## Points For Consideration:

- Frequency management, including narrow-banding is best managed regionally by the local agencies to best fit the needs of their area.
- TDMA conversion for systems using a combination 700 MHz and 800 MHz require more changes than just to the 700 MHz frequencies.



# Petition To FCC To Extend Narrow-Banding Deadline

## Recommendation:

- For information only.
- The RWC and PSIC will continue to monitor this issue and provide input to the FCC when appropriate.







Questions?